

The Alma Record

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SAFETY FIRST.

Rigid economy, most peculiar in its application, has struck the Pere Marquette Railroad and despite directions from the State Railroad Commission, and in the fact of public sentiment which brooks no such form of financial retrenchment it has made certain changes which endanger life and property in the city of Alma besides causing a maximum degree of inconvenience. During his administration as mayor J. M. Montigel spent much time and effort in attracting the attention of the State Railroad Commission toward the conditions which existed in Alma. Besides maintaining a depot which was an insult to the community the company had been furnishing no protection whatever for the public even at the principal crossings. When the matter was finally brought to the attention of the governing board their decision was quickly made, and quickly enforced. Among other changes ordered a flagman was to be placed at the Woodworth Ave. crossing. Reluctantly a flagman was stationed there.

Monday morning July 20 pursuant to the orders of the Pere Marquette the flagman was relieved of his duties. Just where the company secured their authority, or rather nerve, to disregard the dictum of the Commission is a mystery. Figures giving the number of pedestrians, both man and vehicles using this crossing have been given in the Record and disprove the statement of the company that a flagman was an unnecessary safeguard to traffic. The very position of the crossing, with dwellings closely adjoining on two sides, with a much used switch on another side and an elevator shutting off every possible view from the other side speaks more loudly than words of the crying need of material protection at this point of the track. Perhaps, parents feel that it is perfectly safe for their children to use this crossing freely; perhaps the ordinary walker, or the ordinary driver of a car or horse feels perfectly safe in approaching this crossing—but we strongly doubt it.

Along with this resort to economy the company ordered the depot to be closed at midnight and to remain closed until six a. m. despite the fact that two scheduled passenger trains discharge and take on passengers during these hours. Probably breaking a custom of fifteen years' standing means nothing to the company, but the discomfort and absolute danger to health of waiting for a train in the open and under no roof at that time of the night or morning are factors which should cause immediate attention from the public's only tangible and legal weapon, the State Railroad Commission. By placing benches outside the depot Mr. E. C. Crandell of Crandell and Scott has done all in his power to assist the Pere Marquette, but we can hardly expect the genial furniture dealer to build a waiting room for the citizens of Alma beside the Pere Marquette tracks.

The target which is at the immediate junction of the two tracks on State St. will be controlled in the future at the foot of the pole on which it is placed and not at the depot. Accommodating newsboys, or the least busiest men in the vicinity usually tend to the signaling, for the primary duty of the baggageman is to take care of the baggage and not to run down the street a block or two to signal the coming trains. The company might at least give an excursion, and a picnic thrown in, to the accommodating newsboys. They merit it.

Last but not least of the P. M.'s innovations is that which provides that the services of a baggageman may be foregone on Sunday, and that the ticket agent shall juggle the trunks, grips and milk cans while making the change. We can imagine that one man could perform these duties as a single job in a town the size of Paine's Junction—but he can't at Alma, and still give even pardonable service. Flipping coins and flipping trunks are two distinct things.

Perhaps these changes have been made at the instance of P. M. bondholders who were caught in the maelstrom of high finance and are going down with weather worn craft, but that fact should have no bearing with the men who are directing the destinies of a public service corporation. And, unless, satisfaction is gained by the city of Alma by the force of its public opinion the only means left is to call the aid of the Railroad Commission which will speedily right the several wrongs.

Verne Rogers, Walter Vogt and Reed Stimpson went to Saginaw Sunday to watch the Adrian and Saginaw teams of the South Michigan league play baseball. They visited Mr. Stimpson's brother, who is shortstop for the Adrian team and one of the best players in the league.

LOST — Friday July 24th, Black Cocker Spaniel dog with very few white hairs on breast, answers to the name of Col. Joe. Finder please return to R. C. Saxton, Alma, and receive reward.

Latest Redpath Chautauqua Pictures

SEASON 1914



THREE REDPATH CHAUTAUQUA DYNAMOS IN DIXIE.

Bohumir Kryl, Cornetist and Bandmaster; Ex-Senator Frank J. Cannon and Marcus A. Kellerman, Dramatic Baritone. Photographed at Murfreesboro, Tenn., April 29, 1914.

BOOMED FOR GOVERNOR

Friend of G. A. R. Commander tells of Gardner's Qualifications for High Office

TWELVE YEARS IN CONGRESS

Last Chance, Probably, to Honor Soldier of War That Preserved Union

The following testimonial to the worth, ability and Republicanism of Washington Gardner of Albion, candidate for the Republican nomination for Governor of Michigan, appeared in Sunday's Detroit Free Press. Washington Gardner has hosts of friends in Gratiot county who will endorse the sentiments expressed by former U. S. Pension Agent O. A. Janes. The communication referred to follows:

To the Editor: There has not been a time in many years when the Republicans were called upon to exercise more care in the selection of a state standard bearer than now. Of the six candidates, from whom a choice is to be made, it may be said that each has some strong points. It is for the voters to determine which has the most, for it is generally conceded that the party will need all the votes it can command to elect its candidate.

Without disparaging any, I wish to call attention to some points in favor of Washington Gardner, whom I have known from boyhood, for governor. He was a soldier at 16 years of age, served more than three years in the ranks and received in battle a bad wound, from which he still suffers. Five years after the war he was graduated from college, and later in the law, and for years was engaged in teaching. He, like Governor Ferris, and Professor Pattengill, is widely and favorably known in the state at large. No one questions that he is the equal of either in character or ability. He is recognized by both the national and state Republican committees as one of the most effective campaign speakers in the country. As a man of wide repute recently remarked in speaking of him along this line, "Gardner always delivers the goods."

He has a thorough acquaintance with the state and its needs, for there is scarcely a county in Michigan in which he has not spoken, nor a state institution he has not visited. He is not a novice, but a statesman trained in public affairs. Appointed secretary of state at a critical time, he served for five years. Twice unanimously nominated to succeed himself, he received each time the largest vote ever given any candidate for the office in Michigan. Upon his retirement the late Governor Luce, than whom none was better able to judge, said: "Michigan never had a better secretary of state than Washington Gardner."

He served 12 years in congress with great credit to himself, his district, his state and value to the country. He is recognized as belonging to the constructive school of statesmen. In all his public life he has been regarded as careful, safe, conservative, and at the same time progressive. Appreciating the past, he lives in the present and for the future.

Last September at Chattanooga,

Tenn., 1,000 delegates, representing every state in the Union, and Alaska besides, unanimously elected Washington Gardner commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic. Since his election he has traveled almost 30,000 miles, visiting officially 33 states in the Union and delivered more than 350 addresses. Among the more notable deliverances was one before 15,000 people at the dedication of a state memorial building, costing more than a half million of dollars at Topeka, Kansas; another before a great audience at the tomb of General Grant, Riverside-on-the-Hudson, and another before an immense throng at the unveiling of a Confederate monument in the National cemetery at Arlington, Va. At this last function, among the many people of note present, were President Wilson and Secretary of State Bryan, both of whom heartily congratulated Mr. Gardner on his address.

As the end of his official term draws near many of the foremost men in the Grand Army are declaring in letters to headquarters that the order never had a more capable or devoted commander-in-chief. Mr. Gardner's candidacy for governor will command the support not only of a vast majority of the surviving veterans of the Civil war but of the thousands of the sons of veterans with whose fathers the present commander-in-chief fought in the ranks. Without doubt this is the last opportunity that Michigan, the birthplace of the Republican party, will ever have to honor a soldier of the great war that preserved us as a nation. As capable in all respects as any other man named in or out of the party, can the Republicans of Michigan do better than to nominate this man who identified with no clique or faction, will, in the judgment of many, come nearer uniting all factions and giving the Republicans of Michigan their old-time majority than any other man mentioned.

O. A. JANES.

Highland Park, 30, California avenue, July 25, 1914.

Within three or four days the scourge of the army worm will have run its course and the farmers of Central Michigan will be free from this pest which is doing so much damage in the oat and corn crops. The worm, which bears a striking resemblance to a cut worm, is from an inch to an inch and a half long. In company with countless numbers of its kind it enters a field, destroying the crop the field within a day. The worm climbs the stalk of the grain and severs the individual branches of the head of the grain. Its action is especially destructive where the grain is bent to the ground because of rain or wind. Apparently, the food value of the kernels of grain means nothing to the worm, for it simply cuts them off and leaves them lying on the ground untouched. Agricultural scientists differ as to the motive of the worm, and why it cuts the grain without eating it. When the crop of a field is practically destroyed, for even the straw is then worthless, the conquering swarm of worms which have so aptly been named "army worms," marches on.

The worm possesses an unfailing sense of direction. It invariably proceeds from an oat field to a corn field, following the same line of action as in the oat field.

Prof. Rufus H. Pettit, entomologist at M. A. C., predicts that within a few days the worms will burrow into the ground and there develop into another form of worm life known as pupae. The worm with which the crops of the farmers are now afflicted is of the second generation. A third generation will appear in September, but will not be a serious pest.

The farmer has a strong ally in its fight against the worm in the tachina fly, its natural parasitic enemy. The fly lays its eggs in the worms.

It is anticipated by the experts at M. A. C. that the host of worms will succumb to the attacks of the fly by August first.

Though Gratiot has not suffered as seriously from the worm as have many counties of Michigan and of grain states like Illinois, Indiana and Iowa, the loss in this county alone will be enormous. From every quarter have come reports of serious losses.

Mr. Fred Creech of Forest Hill sustained nearly a wholesale loss of his oat crop. Mr. Wesley Parr, one-half mile north of Alma, Mr. Charles Wheeler, on the old Bahlike farm east of Alma, Mr. Dan Sharrar, two miles southeast of Alma, Ray Best, one mile north of Alma, Matt Leutz, west of Alma, Geo. Kemler, Howard Knudson and Eli Brown, also between one and two miles north of the city and Tom Grover, four miles further north, are but a few of those who have suffered seriously the ravages of the pest.

In Emerson township the worm has done its worst work in the whole county. Beautiful fields of oats suffered total losses.

M. A. C. experts advise the farmers to "back furrow" their fields. This is done by plowing under the field four or five times. Two men, Dr. G. D. Shafer and G. C. Woodin, are visiting county to county demonstrating methods for getting rid of the pest. They advise the digging of deep furrows in which the worms may be dropped and burned.

EVERY FARMER HIS OWN BOOKKEEPER

To make every farmer his own bookkeeper will be the purpose of a special extension course to be established this fall by the Michigan Agricultural college. The effort is to be part of a broad movement contemplated with a view to inducing husbandmen to conduct their farms on a more business-like basis and lessons in accounting.

ALMA MARKETS.

The following market reports are corrected every Thursday morning:

Oats	.....	38
Wheat	.....	86c
Shelled corn	.....	70c
Ear Corn	.....	\$1.00
White Beans	.....	\$1.75
Red Kidney Beans	.....	\$2.40
Rye	.....	54c
Barley	.....	per cwt. \$1.10
Buckwheat	.....	\$1.10
Hay, No. 1 Timothy	.....	\$12.00
Hay, No. 2 Timothy	.....	\$11.00
Hay, No. 1 Mixed	.....	\$10.00
Hay, Clover	.....	10.00
Clover seed	.....	\$7.35 to 7.50
Straw	.....	\$4.50 to \$5.50
Timothy	.....	\$2.50

LIVE STOCK

Pigs	.....	per cwt. \$8.40
Heavy Hogs	.....	per cwt. \$8.75
Beef Cattle	.....	per cwt. \$4.00 to \$4.50
Fat Sheep	.....	per cwt. \$7.00 to \$7.50
Veal Calves	.....	\$7.50 to 8.50

DRESSED MEATS

Light Hogs	.....	per cwt. \$11.00
Heavy Hogs	.....	10.00
Veal Calves	.....	per pound 12c

POULTRY, HIDES, ETC.

Hens	.....	11c
Spring Chickens	.....	per pound 16c
Beef Hides	.....	per pound 10c
Horse Hides	.....	\$2.00 to \$3.00
Deacon Skins	.....	25c
Calf Skins	.....	per pound 10c
Tallow	.....	per pound 8c

PRODUCE

Butter	.....	per pound 24c
Eggs	.....	per dozen 15c

BARGAINS!

We have about 50 pairs of low shoes that are going for less than 50c on the dollar. Come and look.

Biggest and Best
Saturday Special
144 Ten-quart Titan Gray Enameled Water Pails for
20c each

Sale commences at 2:30 p. m. Only one to a customer.
None sold or laid away before that time.

Cushing & Benedict

"Where you do the best."

ALMA,

MICH.

counting will be taught in connection with the proposed one-week schools, to be conducted under the auspices of the college in various towns and rural communities throughout the state. Through the medium of the new course the college hopes to make each farm a well organized business unit.

According to the plan outlined by the extension department, difficult and complicated methods will be avoided and attention will be given to the simplest system which makes a comprehensive record of the business done on the farm. In addition, lessons will also be given in a more complete system, which will be necessary if the farmer intends to keep a cost accounting record of the different enterprises on the farm. The various types of farming common in Michigan will be discussed from the standpoint of profits and success possible, together with combinations advisable under local conditions.

W. C. T. U.

Those who were privileged to hear

Miss Marie C. Brehm's lectures on temperance last Tuesday and Wednesday at College Hall enjoyed a rare treat.

Miss Brehm is a woman of commanding presence, unquestionable mental attainments with a wide experience and unlimited information on the subject. She treated the liquor problem in a masterly manner.

She handled the subject as a sociological problem, counting the terrific cost to society and presenting her remedy for the conditions that exist—the abolishment of the licensed saloon throughout the United States. Following are a few of the figures she gave:

Two billion dollars is spent yearly for alcohol in the United States for alcoholic liquors.

This would make a lake large enough to float twenty of the largest warships in America.

Then the indirect cost of alcohol to our country in supporting insane asylums, prisons, institutions for feeble-minded, etc., all containing its victims,

is five times as great as the direct cost.

One billion one hundred million dollars is spent for tobacco annually—enough to build the Panama canal and ships to go through it, or to give over a million students a four years' college course.

Nine hundred and twenty million dollars for bread.

Sixty-two million dollars for education.

Two hundred and forty-two million dollars for church expenses.

Thirty-three million dollars for all our missionaries.

Two million dollars for all temperance work.

Truly, King Alcohol exacts a fearful toll; he spares neither low nor high and his victims may be your boy or mine.

Saturday afternoon, August 1, the next meeting of the W. C. T. U. is to be held in the city park and is to be addressed by two local pastors.

Subject: "Local Needs." It is husbands' Day and a picnic potluck supper is to be given.

MRS. FLEMING.

TYPICAL NEWSPAPER COMMENT ON THE REDPATH CHAUTAUQUA OF 1913

The Tri-City Daily, Florence, Ala., says:

"Florence has been captured entirely by the Redpath Chautauqua and it is a safe bet that the chautauqua will not be allowed to pass this city by in the future."

In an editorial in the Albany, Ga., Herald

this statement is made: "Thru this big organization with a string of 110 chautauquas scheduled we were enabled to have attractions that we could not have secured for a single assembly."

The Dyersburg, Tenn., State Gazette said

editorially: "We will all be sorry when it becomes necessary for them to fold their tents, but unlike the Arabs it will not be necessary for them to steal away."

The Clarksville, Tenn., Leaf-Chronicle

"Now that our good people know from actual experience just what are the possibilities of the Chautauqua movement they are unanimously agreed as to its great helpfulness to a community."

The Birmingham, Ala., Age-Herald says:

"The tent which holds over 2000 persons was well filled when the performance began last night and altho the weather was hot every part of the program was received with much enthusiasm. Indications are that from now on large crowds will patronize the chautauqua performances. The Redpath agency which is giving the program is well known as one of the foremost booking agencies of the world."

The Alpena, Mich., Echo: "When Mr. Rhein-

frank asked those of the audience who would like a chautauqua in Alpena next year to stand, the entire audience arose. It was necessary to call an imposing vote."

The Battle Creek, Mich., Enquirer: "The Best

Ever Chautauqua grows more popular with each succeeding entertainment."

The Gary, Ind., Post: "It is doubtful if any chau-

tauqua in any city has ever had such overwhelming success during its first year as the Redpath Chautauqua had here during its present engagement."

ALMA, MICHIGAN, AUGUST 8 TO 14.